

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for keeping a copy of data, wherein a primary database
2 server is coupled to a primary data store, wherein the primary database server receives
3 database events from an external source and generates signals for accessing the primary data
4 store, the method comprising

5 using the tracking process to store at least a portion of the received database
6 events in an event log; and

7 using the event log to update a secondary data store.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising

2 excluding some of the events from being stored in the event log.

3 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising

4 wherein the step of excluding some of the events in the event log includes the
5 substep of allowing a user to define which events are excluded.

6 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the external source includes an
7 application program.

8 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the application program is part of a
9 messaging network.

10 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising

11 updating multiple secondary data stores.

12 7. In a distributed networked computer system, a method for exchanging
13 messages in said networked computer system, said process comprising the steps of:

14 providing information to be sent from a source to a destination, said source
15 and said destination coupled to said distributed networked computer system;

16 generating a message at said source, said message comprising the information
17 and routing information;

18 transmitting said message to a selected route point in said distributed computer
19 network using a first communication backbone;

20 transmitting said message to at least one additional selected route point in said
21 distributed computer network using a second communication backbone;

11 archiving said message at each route point;
12 transmitting said message from route point to said destination;
13 eliminating duplicate copies of said message at said destination;
14 generating an event log including information about said archiving; and
15 using the event log to update a secondary data store.

1 8. A method for maintaining copies of data, wherein an application
2 program sends events to a database server, wherein the database server generates database
3 transactions to modify a primary copy of data, the method comprising

4 storing a record of the events as an original event log; and

5 using the original event log to maintain multiple copies of the data.

6 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising

1 transferring at least a portion of the record of events to multiple data sites,
2 wherein each data site includes a data store, wherein each data store includes at least a
3 portion of the data; and

4 using the transferred at least a portion of the record of events to update the
5 data at the data stores.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein at least one data site receives events
2 from two or more data sites.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein a secondary data site receives a
2 series of events in an order different from the order of events in the original event log, the
3 method comprising

4 using the received different-order events to update data at the secondary data
5 site.